Illuppur Sivan Temple

* 242 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that pieces of bones were thrown at the holy car of Illuppur Sivan temple, Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) As it was suspected that some Muslim miscreants threw a few fleshy bones at the holy car, elderly Muslims and Hindus of the place in order to avoid Hindu-Muslim Clash over this issue, met together and effected a compromise. As a result of the compromise and in order to preserve cordial relationship between the Hindus and Muslims, complaints which were filed before the Police by both Hindus and Muslims were either referred as undetectable or were treated as non-cognisable.

The Samprokshana of the deities is to be performed, the cost being shared equally by the Muslims and the Hindus.

* 243 Q.—SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received about the collective fine imposed on the Muslims by the authorities of the Siva temple at Illuppur in Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Enquiry shows that no collective fine was imposed on Muslims by the authorities of the Siva temple at Illuppur.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Sir, the public officer who mediated in the case imposed a collective fine varying from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 and the fine was collected. Will the Government take action to return the fine so collected ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, my answer was that the inquiry showed that no collective fine was imposed. Just as the two questions relating to this matter have been put by a Hindu Member and a Muslim Member, there was Hindu-Muslim amity there. Both conferred and setteled the question. So, there is no longer any trouble.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Sir, representation was given to the Government regarding the imposition of the collective fine. I know the facts.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I have stated that I have no information about the collection of the collective fine. But I would like to state that if there was collective fine, that was justified.